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A FULL AND TRUE
RELATION
OF THE
Death and Slaughter

OF
A MAN and his SON at PLOUGH,
TOGETHER
With FOUR HORSES,

In the Parish of *Cookham* in the County of *Berks*, *Sept. 2. 1680.*

SLAIN BY THE
Thunder and Lightning

THAT

Then and there happened, as may fully be testified by credible
Persons, whose Names are hereunto adjoyned.

LIKEWISE

The same day happened another sad Accident near *Norwich*, eight
Persons being struck dead in a Church Porch by Thunder.

Published for prevention of false Reports.



LONDON, Printed for *John Harding* at the Bible and *Anchor*
in *Newport-Street* near *Leicester-Fields*, 1680.

RELATION

OF THE

Death and Slaughter

OF

A MAN and his SON at PLOUGH

TOGETHER

WITH FOUR HORSES,

In the Parish of Cockton in the County of York, Sept. 2. 1680.

SLAIN BY THE

Thunder and Lightning

THAT

Then and there happened, as may fully be testified by credible Persons, whose Names are hereunto adjoyned.

LIKEWISE

The same day happened another sad Accident near Norwich, eight Persons being struck dead in a Church Porch by Thunder.

Published for prevention of false Reports.



LONDON. Printed for Ioh: Ward at the Bible and New
in Newport-Street neer Ludgate-Fields, 1680.

*A full and true Relation of the Death and Slaughter of a
Man and his Son at Plough, together with four Horses, &c.*

THurſday September the Second, 1680: *John Sawyer*, a Farmer with his Son *Richard*, a Youth of 13 Years of Age, went with four Horses halfe a Mile to a Field in the Pariſh of *Cookham*, called by the Name of *Ham Field*, to Plough, about the hour of Ten in the forenoon, it being then fair weather, but about Eleven a Clock the Sky began to lower, the Clouds grew thick, and ſoon it Lightned and Thundred, and ſome ſhowers of Rain fell; it thundred ſeveral times very loud, ſharp, and ſhrill, to the amazement of ſeveral Perſons: two other Ploughs were at work in the ſame Field at the ſame time; their Cattel being affrighted and unruly, they ſhoot off and go home, and leave *John Sawyer* in the Field, about one of the Clock the Tempeſt began to give off. Four hours after a neighbouring Man a Labourer, one *Francis Dell*, paſſing from the Woods ſide down to *Cookham*, ſees this *John Sawyer*, with his Son *Richard*, and the four Horses all dead on the ground: knowing the Man and his Cattel, he came into *Cookham*, and acquaints the Inhabitants with the Matter, immediately the Major part of the Towns Folks flockt up into the Fields to ſee this ſad Spectacle of amazement, and with the reſt, the Wife of the ſaid *John Sawyer*, where to her exceeding grief ſhe ſaw her Husband, Son, and Four Horses dead, no impreſſion of any ſtroak or bruife on the Man, but the Boy his Cloaths were moſt part of them rent from his body, and his Hat torn in two or three Pieces; One Shooe all the upper leather torn from the Sole and Heel: and his Whip broke in two or three pieces, his Shirt beaten to Lint, and ſtrewed on the Horſe he was ſuppoſed to ride, except one narrow Slip from his Neck to the fore part, only remaining from his Neck downward before; he was obſerved to be naked, and from the Neck down his Back burnt, or ſinged, as is ſuppoſed with the Lightning, likewise ſcorched or ſinged on the belly, ſome part of his hair ſinged, as the Eye-brows, and part of the hair of his Head; and that the Horſe he was ſuppoſed to ride, was ſinged from the Neck to the Flanck. It is judged by thoſe Plough-men that ſhot out, and came home ſafe, that it might be the laſt Clap of Thunder and Lightning that afforded them that fatal ſtroak. *John Sawyer* and his Son had ſhot out from Plough, and were about ſix Pole from the Plough, each of them being ſuppoſed to be Riding homeward, they each of them having their left Leg under the near ſide of the Horses they were ſuppoſed to Ride; the Horses falling all one way, it is judged that the Horses were ſtruck immediately dead in their walk, none of them having ſo much as one Leg ſtretched out, or any reaſon to conclude that they ſtrove for

for Life. *John Sawyer* was a Man of good repute among his Neighbours, that lived Soberly and Honestly. On *Saturday* the 14th. of *September*, the *Coroner* came and called a Jury for Inquire, and they gave their Verdict that it was the immediate providence of Almighty God, and so the *Coroner* gave order for the Burial of the Man and his Son, which the same Evening was performed.

We whose Names are here under Written do testify the Truth of this Relation:

Jo. Whiffeld, Esq; Justice of Quorum for *Berkshire*.

Fran. Crawley, Vic. de Cookham.

Robert Bennet, }
John Rea, } Church-wardens of *Cookham*.

John Chery of *Maiden-head*, Warden of the Town.

Thomas Bird, Apprentice at *Mr. King's* a Fishmonger in *Newgate-Market*, whose Father liveth at *Cookham*, was likewise at *Cookham* when this sad Accident happened, and saw the Man, Boy, and Horses in the Field.

John Harding, being very near the place the next day.

From *Cookham* to *Maiden-head* 2 Miles.

From *Cookham* to *Marlow* 3 Miles.

From *Cookham* to *Windsor* 6 Miles.

From *Cookham* to *Beaconsfield* 3 Miles.

From *Cookham* to *Wickham* 5 Miles.

From *Cookham* to *Reading* in *Berkshire* 11 Miles.

The same day at *Norwich*, and for 6 Miles round, happened a terrible Thunder and Lightning, where Eight Persons, that were at Harvest work, retiring into a Church Porch, when a great Clap of Thunder and Lightning came and struck them all dead.

FINIS.